

Review of Extraordinary Circumstances

The Department of the Interior Manual 516 2.3A (3) requires review of the following “extraordinary circumstances” (516 DM 2 Appendix 2) to determine if an otherwise categorically excluded action would require additional environmental analysis/documentation.

1) Have significant impacts on public health or safety.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments: The proposed action will not have significant impacts on public health or safety and security personnel will be in place to ensure that members of the public are kept away from the track and activities. There will be medical staff on site to handle medical emergencies.

2) Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments: The proposed action will not have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas as this will take place within an approved BLM off-highway vehicle recreation area.

3) Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments: The proposed action will not have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources as the activities will take place only on BLM designated recreation areas and would not be more invasive than current uses.

4) Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments: The proposed action will not have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks as the activities which will occur are within the scope of current land uses.

5) Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments: The proposed action will not establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects as

travel and recreation activities are allowable uses in these areas.

6) *Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments: The proposed action will not have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects as the testing will occur in previously approved areas.

7) *Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments: The proposed action will not have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the BLM.

8) *Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat.*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments: The proposed action will not have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the US Fish and Wildlife List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat. The testing will remain outside of the designated Flat-tailed Horned Lizard (FTHL) Management Area (MA).

9) *Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments: The proposed action will not violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment as the actions are within the scope of allowable uses as defined in the CDCA plan, 1980 as amended.

10) *Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments: The proposed action will not have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations.

11) *Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments: The proposed action will not limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites. All testing will remain in previously approved areas.

12) *Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction,*

growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).

()Yes (X) No

Comments: The activity will not contribute to the spread of noxious or non-native invasive species.

Reviewers:

//Signed//
Thomas James, Cultural Resources

4/15/16
Date

//Signed//
Victoria Hernandez, Realty Specialist

4/15/16
Date

//Signed for//
Carrie Simmons, Resources Branch Supervisor

4/15/16
Date